

## **BRIXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL**

### ***Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 30 September 2008 at 7.15p.m. in the Village Hall, Holcot Road, Brixworth***

**Present:** Councillors: I Barratt (Chairman), C Bament, Mrs A Gunnett, M Lacey, R Low, R Monk, Mrs E Wiig and F Wiig

**In Attendance:** Mrs J Macken – Parish Clerk  
Sgt Mike Grady – Northants Police

#### **08/250 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr T Everard, Cllr S Dobson, Cllr R Chattaway, Cllr S Pointer and County Cllr C Millar.

#### **08/251 Declaration of Interest on Agenda Items**

Cllr E Wiig declared a personal interest – Member of another Local Authority  
Cllr F Wiig declared a personal interest - Member of another Local Authority and Chairman of District Council Planning Committee  
Cllr R Monk declared a personal interest – Reference minute number 08/270.

#### **08/252 Resignation of Parish Councillor**

The Chairman reported that Cllr Duncan Kennedy had resigned, due to changes in work commitments. The Clerk was asked to send a thank you letter to Cllr Kennedy, especially for all his work and time spent as Chair of the Recreation Committee. The Clerk will notify the Returning Officer at Daventry District Council and display the statutory notice.

#### **08/253 Signing of the Minutes of the Last Meeting 26 August 2008**

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 August 2008 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of this meeting.

*There were no members of the public present.*

#### **08/254 Police Representative's Report**

Sgt Grady reported the following: -

- 8/Sep/2008 Burglary Non Dwelling – Fog Hall – Person gains entry to garage and steals Motor Bike. (BIKE RECOVERED)
- 11/Sep/2008 Criminal Damage – Brampton Way – Unknown person scratches paintwork on car.
- 12/Sep/2008 Theft From Vehicle – The Slip – Numbers plates removed from vehicle.
- 3/Sep/2008 Theft – Hill Farm A508 – Log Splitting machine taken.
- 16/Sep/2008 Theft – Hill Farm A508 – Rabbit netting taken.
- 16/Sep/2008 Criminal Damage – Brampton Way – First Floor bedroom window smashed.
- 17/Sep/2008 Criminal Damage – Lesson Rd – Drivers side wing mirror smashed

- 17/Sep/2008 Shoplifting – Country Park Shop – Male makes off with a £1000 bike.
- 18/Sep/2008 Criminal Damage – Broadlands – Petrol tank damaged on vehicle
- 20/Sep/2008 Theft – Co-op – Wallet removed from shopping basket.
- 21/Sep/2008 Burglary Non Dwelling – Grass Slade – Motor Bike stole from insecure garage (BIKE RECOVERED)
- 21/Sep/2008 Criminal Damage – Grass Slade – Fence panel damaged
- 21/Sep/2008 Burglary Non Dwelling - George Inn – Forced open cash boxes to fruit machine.
- 23/Sep/2008 Brampton Valley way – Spratton Road – Vehicle Stolen by unknown means.
- 24/Sep/2008 Burglary Non Dwelling - Caring Kinder gardens – Ferro Fields – Entry gained nothing taken
- 28/Sep/2008 Burglary Non Dwelling – Park Farm – Entry Gained Via Back kitchen door, vehicle taken along with other items.

At the recent Community Panel meeting , the main priorities for the area are speeding and anti social behaviour.

Sgt Grady confirmed that the Local Police would support a facility for young people on the ‘old’ A508 disused road which is to be discussed later on during the meeting.

**08/255 County Councillors Report**

Cllr Millar had sent his apologies.

**Planning**

***08/256 Minutes of Meetings 1 & 22 September 2008***

The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on the 1 & 22 September 2008 having been previously distributed were accepted.

The planning committee held a site meeting on Friday 26 September 2008 to consider the following application: -

***DA/2008/0941 Froghall Farm, 4 Froghall, Brixworth -Alterations to house, single storey extensions and alterations to barn to convert to residential accommodation***

The Parish Council objects to this application for the following reasons:-

- a) It would be a change of use from agricultural to residential for the old cowshed (most of which has now disappeared)
- b) Most of the proposed development is within the conservation area and the new much larger dwelling will constitute overdevelopment and not be in character.
- c) Part of the old cowshed not thought to be in the conservation area may be outside the village confines.
- d) The extension joining the old cottage to the cowshed will block the light to the adjoining cottage.

***08/257 Planning Application DA/2008/0949 - The George, Northampton Road, Brixworth  
New Signage***

The Parish Council has No Observations

***08/258 Report on the Proposed Wind Farm at Lodge Farm (north of Brixworth) and to Note Letters and Emails Received from Residents***

Cllr F Wiig confirmed that the District Council has not yet registered the application, as it is waiting for further information and details. The planning officers are meeting with the developers on 9 October 2008. Once the planning officers are satisfied with the application then the Parish Council will be consulted.

It was noted that since the last Full Council meeting fifteen letters and emails have been received, twelve object and three support the proposal.

The Clerk stated that the 'Stop the Brixworth Wind Farm' flier, which had been delivered to all the residents, does not have anything to do with the Parish Council. The flier lists the Parish Council as a contact for residents to write to and a couple of residents had contact her assuming that the flier had come from the Parish Council.

Cllr F Wiig reported that the District Council has received the scoping report for wind turbines at Kelmarsh Hall. There are currently several proposed wind farms nearby, at Yelvertoft, Kelmarsh, Harrington and Brixworth. If all the planning applications are approved, then all the wind farms could all get installed.

**Finance**

***08/259 Income Received for August 2008***

The Clerk reported the Income received for August 2008, which was as follows: -

<b>Received from</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>£</b>
Brixworth Cricket Club	First instalment ground rent - St Davids	406.25
AFC Crown	Hire of Ashway PF C/rooms and pitch	80.00
BJFC	First instalment St Davids and Ashway PF	706.25
DDC	Climate Friendly Communities Project Funding	200.00
DDC	Cleaning of One Stop Shop Jul -Sept.	107.00
Community Centre	Hall Hire	37.00
		<u>1,536.50</u>

***08/260 Bank Reconciliation as at 31 August 2008***

The bank reconciliation as at the 31 August 2008 was reported and accepted as follows:

Current Account	£736.74
Capital Reserve Account	£113,662.75
Less Cheques outstanding	£3,679.79
Balance Carried forward as at 1.09.08	£110,719.70

***08/261 Income and Expenditure & Reserves Report for August 2008***

The Council accepted the Income and Expenditure and reserves report for August 2008.

Cllr Monk reported that the budget for the salaries for the year are slightly under, the administration and Highways and Environment budgets are slightly over, the Recreation committee is on target. Overall the expenditure for the year compared to the budget is on target. The Income for the year is also as expected on target.

***08/262 To Approve the Bills for Payment for September 2008***

A schedule of payments, to be made in September 2008 was available to each member at the meeting. It was resolved for the following accounts to be passed for payment; therefore the Chairman signed the schedule of payments.

<b>Chq No.</b>	<b>Payment To</b>	<b>Reason for Payment</b>	<b>£</b>
3829	Groundsman	Groundman's Salary Sept.2008	1,093.29
3830	Clerk	Clerk's Salary Sept. 2008	1,068.88
3831	PT Groundsman	P/T Groundsmans wages Sept. 2008	258.10
3832	Litter Picker	Litter Picker wages Sept. 2008	223.20
3833	Cleaner	Cleaner Comm. Centre wages Sept. 2008	279.00
3834	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE Tax & NI Sept. 2008	687.49
3835	NCC	Pension Contribution Sept. 2008	330.29
3836	Mr I Barratt	Chairmans Telephone Allowance	37.50
3837	Mrs J Macken	Postage, mileage and Clerks Allowance	92.29
3838	NCC	Harborough Road Sign	119.85
3839/3855	Mrs E Bell	Changing Mats for Comm. Ctr. Toilets	7.96
3840	BACA	Replacement Sign - AWPf	70.31
3841	D G Salisbury	Marking out Junior pitch - Ashway P F	158.62
3842	B & Q Financial Svs	Materials for groundsman	49.52
3843	ESPO	New Junior Goal Post	277.15
3843	ESPO	Stationery and cleaning materials	93.28
3844	British Gas Business	C/Rooms Elec. Chgs June -August 08	131.55
3845	DDC	Emptying bins October - December 08	368.04
3846	Carter Jonas	Annual Rent - Millennium Garden	120.00
3847	British Gas Business	Comm. Ctr. Gas Charges June - August 08	69.94
3848	Dyno Rod	Annual Clean of Village Hall Car Park Drains	117.50
3849	E.On	Street Light maintenance	27.75
3850	Lovell Hardware	Materials for groundsman	12.54
3851	Liquidity Ltd	Annual chlorination and water sample - C/rooms	524.05
3852	Kidde Fire Protection	Half Yearly check Emergency lights - C/rooms	149.23
3853	Eurooffice Ltd	Cartridge for Clerks printer	49.92
3854	A H Blason & Son	Fuel and puncture repair	328.75
<b>Total</b>			<b><u>6,746.00</u></b>

***08/263 To Approve and Amend Authorised Signatories on Bank Mandate***

Due to Cllr Kennedy's resignation a new bank signatory is required. It was resolved that Cllr E Wiig would be the new authorised signatory. New bank mandates need to be completed. The Clerk reported that the bank appeared to have lost the previous amended bank mandates, which were handed into the Drapery branch in August. She had spoken to the Bank Manager who had suggested that the Council should have an account Manager at the branch, as a point of contact (this is not normal practice and is

usually only available to business accounts). The Clerk was waiting for someone to contact her and resolve this matter.

***Recreation and Amenities Development***

***08/264 To Report on Ashway Playing Field Working Group Meeting 16 September 2008***

Cllr Bament reported that the Youth Club committee had put together a survey, which was amended by the working group. It was suggested that this survey is sent out to members of the youth club and youth organisations.

***08/265 To Accept Minutes of Meeting 16 September 2008***

The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on the 1 & 22 September 2008 having been previously distributed were accepted. However it was noted that the minute 08/078r will need to be amended to state ‘the survey is to be circulated to the members of the youth club and other youth organisations and then the results could be reported back to the working group’.

***08/266 To Consider Organising a Village Carnival***

Cllr F Wiig suggested that as Brixworth is the largest village in the District that perhaps it should consider organising an annual event such as a carnival, followed by a party in the park. This could be used as a fundraising event and money raised shared amongst the local charities and community organisations. Volunteers would be needed for an organising committee. The Clerk was asked to write to all the community organisations and local businesses to see if they would support/participate or assist with the organisation of the carnival. This may be followed up with an advert for volunteers in the Bulletin.

***08/267 To Discuss Draft Byelaws Relating to Recreation Grounds and Playing Field***

A draft byelaw for St Davids Recreation Ground, Spratton Road Recreation Ground and the Ashway Playing Field had been circulated to members for consideration. The Clerk is to send the draft to the Local Government and Communities Byelaw Section in London for comment.

It was noted that the draft Byelaws do not include Dog Fouling, this is because the District Council’s Dog Fouling Act 1996 covers all the above grounds.

It was suggested that the Byelaws could be available in the library and on a website.

***08/268 To Approve the Annual Servicing of the Gang Mowers***

The Clerk had contacted several companies for a cost of regrinding the blades for the gang mowers. The Clerk was asked to contact Mower Repair Shop in Kettering for a satisfactory reference prior to placing an order. MRS had quoted £450.00 (£150.00 per unit) which was considerable cheaper than the contractors who had previously carried out the work last year (£750.00, £250.00 per unit). If the reference is not satisfactory this matter is to be reconsidered at the next Full Council meeting.

***08/269 To Consider Acquiring Land on the ‘old’ A508 Road, which would be Licensed to the Parish Council by the County Council, for Recreational Use.***

The County Council has proposed to issue a licence to the Parish Council to enable it to use the disused A508 road/land for recreational use, ie. a BMX facility, albeit the land will still remain as highway. The County Council would need to apply for a Traffic Regulation Order to declassify the road, which would be a public consultation and would cost the Parish Council £2,750.00. In addition two signs, indicating the legal order on site, would be required at a cost of £250.00. Highway land cannot be rented, therefore there would be no ongoing revenue implications other than the upkeep of the land itself.

County Cllr Millar has stated that there may be up to £750.00 available from his empowerment fund, which has been left over from the cost of the Yellow Lines, which would be available to the Parish Council to offset against these costs.

The Parish Council has been looking for an ideal location for a BMX facility in the village and this appears to be the ideal location. The Police office is next door and the local Police have confirmed that they would support a youth facility on this site. There may be additional costs involved. i.e. fencing.

Following a vote it was resolved subject to obtaining financial assistance from Cllr Millar's empowerment fund, to go ahead and pursue this matter.

It was suggested for the Recreation Committee to visit the site prior to its next meeting in November. It was also suggested to acquire cost implications for the development of the site whilst the legal process is being carried out.

### **Highways and Environment**

#### ***08/270 To Consider Adopting / Sponsoring Church Street's Red Telephone Box if it is to be Removed by BT***

Following the consultation by BT for the removal of telephone boxes in the Parish, the District Council has objected to the removal of both of the telephone boxes in the village (Spratton Road and Church Street). BT are inviting Parish Council's to either adopt a Red Telephone Box for £1 subject to terms and conditions (does not include operational equipment, kiosk only), or pay £500 annually (for fifteen years) for the maintenance of a kiosk to include operational equipment again subject to terms and conditions. The deadline for registering the Parish Council's interest is 1 November 2008. At the moment the Parish Council does not know whether BT will appeal to the District Council's response and remove the K6 Red Telephone Box in Church Street. Cllr F Wiig confirmed that the District Council would notify the Parish Council if there was an appeal and therefore the Parish Council does not need to make a decision at this time. This was agreed.

#### ***08/271 Report on A508 Monument***

Cllr Bament reported that Ray Bell, with the approval from NCC Highways, has agreed to restore the A508 Hunting Monument.

#### ***08/272 To Consider Quote for Blinds for Community Centre Hall***

Cllr Bament stated that the Council had received a letter from U3A requesting blinds for the Community Hall, together with a quote for the installation of blinds in the region of £2,700 and had offered to donate some of their funds towards the cost. The Clerk has previously received a quote for the blinds at a cost of £1,343 (Local Government price). A letter from the County Council had been received stating that it would approve the installation of blinds, however it would not financially assist. The Parish Council was disappointed in this reply, as it believes that the County Council (as owners) are in some respects responsible for the building. The Clerk was asked to write to the County Council again.

### **Correspondence for discussion**

#### ***08/273 NCC - Northants Mineral and Waste Development – Locations for Waste Development DPD: Supplementary Preferred Options***

Referred to Planning Committee for consideration

#### ***08/274 NCC – Northants mineral and Waste Development - Core Strategy***

Referred to Planning Committee for consideration

#### ***08/275 NCC – Northants Mineral and Waste Development – Preferred Approach***

Referred to Planning Committee for consideration

#### ***08/276 DDC Grant Aid Programme 2009/2010***

Details of funding available had been previously circulated to all the members prior to the meeting. A copy is to be sent out to all voluntary organisations, with the letter regarding the carnival.

#### ***08/277 DDC – Antiques Roadshow and Open Day 16 October 2008***

It was noted that the County Council and the District Council Information Service is to hold an Antiques Road Show and Open Day on Thursday, 16 October 2008 from 2.00pm to 6.00pm at the Library/Community Centre.

#### ***08/278 Communities & Local Government – Consultation on The making and Enforcement of Byelaws***

The Communities and Local Government is consulting on a new procedure which enables authorities to make certain byelaws without need for scrutiny by the Secretary of State. This was noted.

#### **08/279 Quality Parish Status**

The Clerk had previously circulated to members a list of all the criteria's the Council needs to achieve in order to become a Quality Council. The Parish Council has already achieved six of the ten tests.

Following a vote it was agreed to work towards Quality Parish Council status.

**08/280 Correspondence for information only**

The Chairman reported that the correspondence file was available for circulation.

It was noted that two goodwill payments from Anglian Water had been received.

**08/281 Date of Next Meeting**

The next Full Council meeting is to be held on Tuesday, 28 October 2008 at 7.15pm in the Village Hall.

**08/282 Urgent Matters For Report Only**

Cllr Lacey asked for the matter of affordable housing to go on the agenda for the next Full Council meeting.

Cllr Lacey reported that the new windowpanes in the bus shelter on Northampton Road had been purposely scratched. The windowpanes need cleaning and the bush at the rear needs trimming back. The Clerk is to ask the Groundsman to carry out the necessary work.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed as a true record of the above meeting.

Dated 28 October 2008